



SHE PROGRAM SELF-ASSESSMENT

The self-assessment process will assist each work area in assuring that all employee protection measures mandated by OSHA and SHE Program directives are in place and functioning as intended. Supervisors are encouraged to print copies of the checklists that apply to their work areas and operations, distribute them to employees, and obtain employee input on the implementation status of the various requirements. Your team may be able to take advantage of the stand-down to complete needed corrective actions they identified. All supervisors are requested to complete the assessment, and submit their responses on the Supervisor Safety Web Page, by November 2, 2001. Learn more by visiting http://msfcsna3.msfc.nasa.gov/she/slf_assess/.

INFORMATION ON ANTHRAX FROM THE CENTER OF DISEASE CONTROL: Find current

The Safety Dispatch is published by the Contractor Safety Forum at MSFC

Contact:

John Isom, CST, 961-2330
john.isom@msfc.nasa.gov

Fire Safety in the Workplace

Fire safety is important business. According to National Safety Council figures losses due to workplace fires in 1991 totaled \$22 billion. Of the 4,200 persons who lost their lives due to fires in 1991, the National Safety Council estimates 37 were workplaced at loss. Fires and burns accounted for 3.3 percent of all occupational fatalities.

There is a long and tragic history of workplace fires in this country. One of them is the horrible fire at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in New York City in 1911 in which nearly 150 women and young girls died because of locked fire exits and inadequate fire extinguishing systems.

History repeated itself several years ago in the fire in Harlem, North Carolina, where 25 workers died in a fire in a poultry processing plant. It appears that here too, there were problems with fire exits and extinguishing systems.

When OSHA conducts workplace inspections, it checks to see whether employers are complying with OSHA standards for fire safety.

OSHA standards require employers to provide proper exits, fire fighting equipment and employee training to prevent fire deaths and injuries in the workplace.

Refer to your organization's safety plan and evacuation route to assure fire safety at work.

Apartment Security

Most Neighborhood Watch programs take root in areas with single-family homes. But any victims of burglaries and other types of crimes live in apartments. Police say apartment dwellers are far less likely to organize against crime than people who live in houses. But that is slowly changing. Here are some tips for creating a safer community in your apartment complex:

- ❖ Start an Apartment Watch. Just like Neighborhood Watch, members of an Apartment Watch learn how to make their homes more secure, watch out for each other and report crimes and suspicious activities to the police.
- ❖ Help arrange with police for apartment security surveys.
- ❖ Organize patrols to walk around the apartment complex and report crime and suspicious activities. Don't forget to patrol parking lots, stairways, laundry rooms and playgrounds.
- ❖ Publish an newsletter that reports local crimes, recognizes Apartment Watch captains and highlights community activities.
- ❖ Organize a regular meeting to discuss your building's common areas and common property so neighbors can get to know one another.
- ❖ Keep pressure on management to make sure it provides adequate security.
- ❖ Check the complex on a regular basis for problems such as burned-out light bulbs, dark corridors, uncollected trash, broken locks on mailboxes and doors. Report problems to the building manager.
- ❖ Organize meetings to brainstorm how you can help each other, such as starting an escort service for the elderly or for those who are afraid of children.

Safety Day 2001

October 17, 2001